



WORKING OF INC IN THE COALITION POLITICS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR 2008-2014

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ABSTRACT

The Modern State of Jammu and Kashmir came into being in 1846 consisting of three regions- Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh. It had seen many vicissitudes and subjugations for centuries together. Nonetheless, the political awakening and developments during the last decades of 20th century did provide rejuvenation, galvanization in the thoughts and minds of the populace who wrote a new socio, economic and political fortunes of the state. Besides in its political landscape, the geo-strategic importance has had its impact from times immemorial whether in terms of colonialism, imperialism, later on by the cold war politics and now by the new emerging trends of globalization. National Conference emerged as the single largest party in 2008 elections but did not win sufficient number of seats to form government in the state on its own. Thus the result of the 2008 state assembly elections led to a hung assembly with the result another coalition government became a must. Once bitten twice shy, Congress was quick to support National Conference to a visible dismay and displeasure of other competitors. The Congress became the ally of National Conference in the formation of new coalition government. This paper will focus how NC and INC working with in Five Years of Coalition.

KEY WORDS: Indian National Congress, National Conference, Political Parties, Political Awakening, Allan Octavian Hume in December 25, 1885, session of Congress, etc.

INTRODUCTION:

The study of the Kashmir politics cannot be complete without studying the role of Indian national Congress in the politics of the state. The party which was founded by Allan Octavian Hume in December 25, 1885 had a great importance in shaping the politics of the Indian sub-continent and that of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. It was under this organisation that the Indian National freedom Movement was carried out against the British colonialism. Womesh Chander Banerjee was elected its first president. The first session of Congress was attended by 72 representatives representing different parts of India. However, its operation remained mainly confined to the areas that were directly under the British control known as the British India. It considered it politically inexpedient to get into the princely states till the beginning of the State People's Conference in 1927. The party thus helped the political forces and parties operating within the Princely states working for agendas of socio political emancipation in their respective states. This is how congress started getting involved in Jammu and Kashmir as well. Thus the State has also joined the category of states where coalition governments have been formed. It may take a longer time for the state to evolve what is referred as Coalition Dharma and institute necessary institutional mechanism so that coalition governments function smoothly. Like the Indian National Congress, the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir had emerged a dominant political party. It had embarked upon a very

its one representative to join his government in 1945, one representative from Hindu community was also invited. Consequently Mirza Afzal Beig and Shri Ganga Ram* Joined the cabinet of Ministers headed by Shri Ram Chander Kak as Prime Minister of the state. Like other Indian States, Jammu and Kashmir as such did not have coalition experience, Because one party dominance of National Conference. But coalition government/politics emerged as a phenomenon in Jammu and Kashmir at about the same time when we had coalition governments in rest of India. However Jammu and Kashmir has seen governments where outside support by parties was provided as in 1974. Thus the State has also joined the category of states where coalition governments have been formed. It may take a longer time for the state to evolve what is referred as Coalition Dharma and institute necessary institutional mechanism so that coalition governments function smoothly. Like the Indian National Congress, the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir had emerged a dominant political party. It had embarked upon a very revolutionary progressive and radical programme of reforms and national re-construction as a result of which the party had unhesitant fulfilled the promises it had made to the people of the state during the course of its struggle for freedom from the despotic rule and feudal course.

The Indian National Congress and the all Indian States People's Conference* made a tremendous impact on Kashmir politics during late thirties. The main reason for Congress impact on Kashmir politics was the change in its policy towards the native states which was basically affected by the birth of the All India States Peoples Conference in 1927. It "Consistently demanded the integration of the movement started by the state's peoples for self-government within their respective states and the general national struggle for the political freedom of India carried on by the Congress". As a result, the working committee of the Indian National Congress at its annual session held at Jaipur in 1935 announced that "the interests of the peoples of Indian states are as much the concern of the Indian National Congress as those of the peoples of British India and it assured them of its full support in their struggle for freedom. In 1934, Sheikh Abdullah went on a tour to the Punjab. During this visit he had an exchange of ideas with the National Stalwarts of the Indian national Congress. The Path-making event of transformation of the Muslim Conference into National Conference in 1939 was an important step in this regard and it gave new dimension to J&K Politics. There were some important elements which formed the core of the common ideological projection and orientations on J&K propounded by Nehru and the National Conference under the leadership of Sheikh Abdullah. One was that the Joint Struggle of Different Communities, castes and religious groups oppressed by autocratic rule can lay down the basis for an emancipator political movement in J&K. Second both political organizations-National Conference and All Indian National Congress under Sheikh Abdullah and Nehru respectively worked towards consolidating the Kashmiri Nationalism as an affiliate of Pan-Indian Nationalism to checkmate the influences of the two nation theory on the politics and movement for independence of J&K state. Third, both Nehru and Sheikh strove for a distinct identity/constitutional identity for Jammu and Kashmir. N.C identified itself with Congress and almost all the ideas and values of INC were upheld by National Conference and Sheikh Abdullah. Their cordial relationship and the level of like-mindedness grew from strength to strength which was followed and are being followed by his successor Chief Ministers, whether it was Ghulam Mohd. Bakshi or Ghulam Mohd. Sadiq or the contemporary leaders like Farooq Abdullah and Omer Abdullah. All these leaders cherished the values of secular-

Objectives

- To examine the role of INC in stabilising the coalition government in the state politics from 2008-2014
- To examine the emerging significance of congress as a coalition partner within the politics of the state

Hypothesis

- From electoral politics of the state since 2008 Congress had emerged as a constant actor in stabilising coalition politics within the state.

Methodology

- As per the nature and objectives discussed above, the studies will generally rely only secondary data which is based on Books, Article, Research Paper, etc

Indian National Congress in Jammu and Kashmir politics:

The Modern State of Jammu and Kashmir came into being in 1846 consisting of three regions- Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh. It had seen many vicissitudes and subjugations for centuries together. Nonetheless, the political awakening and developments during the last decades of 20th century did provide rejuvenation, galvanization in the thoughts and minds of the populace who wrote a new socio, economic and political fortunes of the state. Besides in its political landscape, the geo-strategic importance has had its impact from times immemorial whether in terms of colonialism, imperialism, later on by the cold war politics and now by the new emerging trends of globalization.

Coalition Experience in Jammu and Kashmir

The history of coalition government in Jammu and Kashmir dates back to the feudal system when Maharaja Hari Singh invited the National Conference to depute

ism, nationalism, equality, socio-economic well-being and eradication of human sufferings. National Conference and Indian National Congress now in coalition government contexted the J&K politics in the new successful and well being of the populace.

Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir held in 2008

National Conference emerged as the single largest party in 2008 elections but did not win sufficient number of seats to form government in the state on its own. Thus the result of the 2008 state assembly elections led to a hung assembly with the result another coalition government became a must. Once bitten twice shy, Congress was quick to support National Conference to a visible dismay and displeasure of other competitors. The Congress became the ally of National Conference in the formation of new coalition government. The bitter experience of Congress party of holding the hands of People's Democratic Party (PDP) in previous government serve a benefiting cause for National Conference. National Conference and Congress top leaders discussed the modalities of new coalition government and it was agreed to give full term Chief Minister ship to Omar Abdullah and it was a win-win situation for the National Conference because in their previous coalition partnership with PDP, Congress strongly demanded Chief-Minister ship for half of the term.

The 2008 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections that ended on 30th of Dec, 2008 created many records in several fields, making it historically important elections of the J&K State. All the previous records were broken when an increased number of candidates- 1353 contested this election for the 87 Assembly seats. Even in case of independents and women, new records were created with 468 independents and 67 women contested the 2008 polls. Remarkably, the number of Independent candidates this time was far higher than total number of contestants in fray for the 1972 and 1977 Assembly elections. The election commission of India announced the poll schedule for J&K state from 19th of Oct, 2008. All apprehensions about conducting elections in winter were brushed aside with people coming out in good numbers to vote and stamp their faith in democracy. In 2002 elections the poll percentage was 43.69 and the number of voters who casted their votes was 26.56 lakh. As against this, the voter turnout was a whopping 61.23% in 2008 and a total of 39.67 lakh voters cast their votes this time. The election for the State Assembly was scheduled to be in seven phases and the contestants campaigned vigorously right from the announcement of election schedule. As many as 4346 rallies and public meetings, including 700 mega-rallies were held across the state. Several national level leaders of various political parties and star campaigners addressed a large number of public meetings during the campaign period. Of the total rallies, 2299 rallies were held in Kashmir division and 2047 in Jammu division.

The highest voter turnout of 68.87% was recorded in the very first phase when four districts of Bandipora, Leh, Kargil and Poonch went to poll on Nov. 17, 2008. The Ganderbal and Rajouri district went to polls on November 23 in second phase; there the voter turnout was 68.28%. Similarly, in the third phase of polling on November 31, 2008 the Kupwara district recorded voter turnout of 67.99% and during a fourth phase voter turnout of 59.31% was recorded in which Baramulla, Budgam, Reasi and Udhampur districts went to polls on December 7, 2008. Likewise, in the fifth phase of polling on December 13, polling percentage of 57.61% was registered when Pulwama, Shopian and Kathua districts went to polls while as 65.90% voter turnout was recorded in the sixth phase when polling was held on December 17, in the districts of Anantnag, Kulgam, Doda and Ramban. In the seventh and last phase of polling held on 24 December 2008, when Srinagar, Samba and Jammu districts went to polls and the poll percentage recorded was 55.12%.

Summary of the Nov – Dec 2008 Jammu And Kashmir State Assembly Election Results:-

NAME OF THE PARTY	SEATS WON
National Conference	28
Peoples Democratic Party	21
Indian National Congress	17
Bharatiya Janata Party	11
Jammu & Kashmir National Panthers Party	03
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	01
Peoples Democratic Front	01
Independents	04
Total	87

Indian National Congress and National Conference working Achievements in 2008 2014

Agriculture:

Jammu and Kashmir being an agricultural state, about 80% of the people lives in villages, farming as it is the backbone of the entire economic structure of the state. Therefore, it has become imperative for every government of the state to make this backbone of the state strong, sustainable and self-sufficient supplied

mented by new tools and technology. The efforts were made between two:

- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) was introduced for the first time in the state which will cover all crucial elements and re-energize agrarian economy. Rs.46.97 crore work plan proposed by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) is submitted to the central level sanctioning committee of Union Agriculture Ministry for approval.
- Memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed by Jammu and Kashmir State Agro-Industry Development Corporation Ltd. Under the Joint Venture (JV) Modalities, for manufacturing of bio-degradable packaging material.
- First time Saffron Cultivation introduced in nontraditional areas, with 1300 canals area was brought under saffron cultivation in Budgam.
- Hybrid seeds of vegetables being produced for the first time at Dayalgam Nursery, Anantnag.
- Growing of Mushroom, honey, cocoon, zeera, in the remote and far flung area of Gurez being explored.
- Mulberry saplings being distributed among the growers in Gurez.
- The central team visited the state during 2010 year agreed to provide Rs.62.37 crore for modernization of Ravi - Tawi canal in Jammu.

Livestock

The Government also focused on improving livestock in the state which created opportunities for income generation. The state has a precious wealth of livestock in the form of cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, poultry etc. The cattle and poultry amongst all the livestock considered the most important tool for the development of the rural economy. 900 sheep embryos being imported from the Canada based agency on pilot bases. 420 sheep embryos of Dorper, Rambouillet and Corriedale breed were already imported and implanted in Surrogate ewes at sheep breeding farm Panthol by the expert Veterinarian of Canadian Sheep Genetics International.

Conservation of State Wildlife

- Government of India had approved funding on Conservation Plan for Hangul and released Rs 1 crore for the purpose.
- Snow Leopard Project was sent to government of India at a cost of Rs. 2.42 crore with centre already releasing an amount of Rs 1.26 crore.
- Rs.2.90 crore also realized to fence Hirpura Wild Life Sanctuary along Mughal Road fenced up to 10 Kms. An amount of Rs. 3.10 crore was released by the government of India for external funding.
- An amount of Rs 3.10 crore was released by the government of India against the cost of Rs 6.50 crore for installation of feed mills to increase the production of trout fish in the state.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

The state of Jammu and Kashmir comprises of three divisions, twenty two districts, 21 divisions, 82 territorial tehsils, 256 nayabats, 1553 Patwar Halqas, and 6959 villages The J&K government has realized revenues of 9624.63 crore as tax collection during the last two fiscal years. Replying to question by Jammu Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) member Harsh Dev Singh in Legislature Assembly, minister for Finance and Ladakh Affairs, Abdul Rahim Rather informed the house that the state government has realized revenue of 9624.63 crore as tax collection during the last two fiscals through the state's excise and commercial taxes departments. The minister informed the house that Rs. 7117.61 crore were realized in Jammu division while as Rs. 2507.01 crore stands realized in Kashmir division in the form of tax collection during the said period. Selection of 1470 Patwaries made to fill up the vacancies.

- Another major contribution of the coalition government was rendered to the state, more than 50,000 canals of land under 4-laning of National highway, PMGSY and railways under the Land Acquisition proceedings were completed.
- Various service of Revenue department have been brought under Public Service Guarantee Act (PSGA).

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

In the perspective of industrial growth the Industries and Commerce Department of J&K is concentrating to attract investment in the state for developing world class infrastructure to achieve objectives like:-

- To explore available resources in the state.
- To create conducive industrial employment.
- To promote labour intensive industries to lessen the pressure on unemployed-

ment market in the state.

- To improve industrial performance by providing necessary inputs so far as to reduce the dependence of the state on imports. The department is focusing on key sectors like Food processing, Pharmaceuticals, Bio-technology, Textiles, Sports goods, Information Technology etc to accelerate industrial growth in the state

Education Sector in Jammu and Kashmir

In the national educational scenario J&K is subsumed as educationally backward with reference to the established indices namely literacy rate, teacher-people ratio, drop-out rate and the absorption pattern of the educated personnel. The government from time to time has taken various initiatives in the form of center/state support scheme especially for backward/under privileged sections of the society to boost education in the state. It has larger effects and impact in the society and it is a primary element to galvanize the populace in the state. Broadly speaking the Education has the following commitments on the part of the state:

- To eradicate illiteracy.
- To work for overall educational development of the state.
- To implement various educational policies, programmes and schemes.
- To administer and monitor schools.
- To provide teachers training.
- To work for behavioral modifications.
- The following steps had been taken by the present coalition headed by Omar Abdullah to boost the education sector in the state:
 - Two central universities, 2 campuses in north and south of Srinagar came up, 23 colleges, 5000 schools, 50 polytechnics and I.T.Is were setup in the state.
 - 2521 schools were upgraded.
 - 16475 educational buildings were constructed.
 - 45386 schools covered under mid-day meals on yearly bases and 16.50 lakh students provided mid-day meals.
 - 3856 masters were promoted.
 - 16 polytechnics opened and made functional.
 - 6 polytechnics upgraded and 396 posts were created.
 - 9 women I.T.Is, 12 Women Wings in I.T.Is and 89 new trade units were introduced in Industrial Training Institutes, (I.T.Is).
 - 6 modern I.T.Is at Hajan, Bani, Banihal, Gurez Khori and Nowshera were established.
 - 39 ITIs taken up for upgradation.
 - 12000 youth provided training in different skills outside the state.
 - 26633 educated unemployed youth were provided employment in educational departments.
 - 5480 new primary schools have been opened and 2521 were upgraded.
 - 526 Middle Schools were upgraded to the level of high schools.
 - 16475 buildings were constructed which include about 2300 primary school buildings, 367 middle schools and 3231 additional class rooms and 9932 kitchen sheds.
 - Construction of about 50 KGBs was completed, 105 Block Recourse Centers were completed, 564 Clusters Recourse Centers were completed besides establishing 540 call centers.
 - 168 High and Higher Secondary Schools were repaired and renovated, 246 sanitation blocks were constructed in schools.
 - 7000 additional posts were created for upgraded Schools.
 - Establishment of new Polytechnic Institute in the campus of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University.
 - Establishment of Polytechnic Institutes in uncovered districts in Jammu and Kashmir and creation of post of different categories.

- New initiatives like Saakshar Bharat Mission 2012, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhyasan (RMSA), Beti Anmol Schemes were launched in the State.
- In the last decade (2001-2011) the state registered a remarkable increase in total literacy from 50.52% - 68.74% and an equally impressive improvement in female literacy from 43% - 58%.
- For the establishment of the Central University of Kashmir at Ganderbal 3321 canals of land were transferred to the higher educational department and 3000 canals of land have been transferred for the establishment of the Central University of Jammu. At present both the Universities are functional. The Government believes in enabling the youth to acquire technical expertise for enhancing their employability in this connection, several job-oriented courses were introduced in the University of Kashmir.

EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT

The achievements of the current coalition government in employment sector had been as follow:

- One lakh jobs provided to youth, 70,000 more in offing.
- 3000 entrepreneurship units established, skill up gradation training being provided to 40000 youth.
- 20348 ReTs regularized.
- 10,000 doctors, specialists and paramedics appointed in Health Department.
- 7000 additional posts created for upgraded schools.
- 26633 educated unemployed youth provided employment in Education Department.
- Under Voluntary Services Allowance scheme 52374 youth were provided unemployment allowance worth Rs. 87 crores.

Udaan and Himayat Schemes:

- 40000 youths were being trained over a period of five years to get them absorbed in private job market.
- The commitments of 36 Corporate / Private Organizations and 7 Public Sector undertaking to up skill and employ over 61,000 graduate youth from Jammu and Kashmir.
- So far 1070 candidates have completed training and another 2000 are undergoing training with various corporate.
- Around 550 candidates have been offered the job in the corporate sector.
- Udaan is being implemented in partnership with top private organizations like Tata, Consultancy Services, HCL, Cognizant, Accenture, Religare, Yes Bank etc.
- Under SKEWPY about 300 industrial units have been set up for providing employment to 13000 youths.
- Under the newly initiated Youth Startup Loan Scheme (YSLs) 350 entrepreneurs have been assisted to launch their units.

Under new Jammu and Kashmir Employment Scheme 15479 entrepreneurs have been registered and financial help worth Rs. 141.93 crores providing by the state government, this has resulted in creation of jobs for 63462 people.

Health Sector

In the health sector the current coalition government's main achievements were:

- Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) 6 District Hospitals, 15 Child Health Centers, 23 Public Health Centers (PHCs), 63 Sub-Centers had been completed. More over under the major Hospital projects, 40 Public Health Centers (PHCs) and 51 Sub-Centers had been completed.
- Super Specialty Hospitals at Jammu, District Hospital Doda, District Hospital Baramullah, Phase-i-Sub-District Hospital Chenani and Trauma Center at Thatri had been completed.
- Two new 200-Bedded Maternity Hospitals were established in the State.
- 7000 Doctors and Specialists were engaged by the state government.
- 15 Hospital projects were completed by the government.
- 11 Mobile units were deployed in 11 districts of the state.

- 200 Bedded Pediatric unit was completed at SMGS Hospital Jammu.
- 200 Bedded OPD additional blocks was constructed in Lal Dad (L.D) Hospital, Lal Chowk Srinagar. Besides various other Sub-Centers, Medical Blocks and units related to various Scientific Technology and diseases were established throughout Jammu and Kashmir State. Those were as follows:
- 50- Bedded additional Emergency Block in GMC Jammu, one Oncology Block in GMC Srinagar, Psychiatric Center at GMC Jammu, Operation Theater Block at Bones and Joints Hospital Srinagar were completed.
- Intake of MBBS seats increased from 100 to 150 in Government Medical Colleges of Srinagar and Jammu and in the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) the number of intake capacity was increased from 50-100, 2279 posts of specialists, 4124 post of super specialists, 1480 post of Specialist Doctors, 1210 staff nurses and about 1500 medical assistants were appointed to provide facility and staff in health institutions.

PROVIDING AND MANAGING SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR ALL

Various endeavours were made to provide safe drinking water to the people both in the urban and rural areas through the implementation of several schemes in all the three provinces of the state. Being a life-line for the populace, government made it priority consideration and following steps were taken in this regard:

- The 3rd intake filtration plant at Sitlee Jammu, with 54 lakh gallons per day capacity was completed and commissioned.
- About 30 lakh gallons of water per day added by commissioning 25 new tube wells in Jammu urban with ERA assistance.
- Lar water Scheme in Ganderbal and WSS Manigam stand completed and commissioned adding 5 lakh gallons of water per day in the area.

Tourist Sector:

- Tourism generated employment for about 80,000 people in which 40,000 were direct beneficiaries and the rest indirect ones.
- 5232 youths were trained in Hotel Management activities.
- The tourist arrivals were registered at an average of 10 lakh per year in last five years while the pilgrim tourist arrivals had been of the average order of about one crore per year.
- Eighty seven tourism development projects were sanctioned and launched in the state.
- Conservation of Mubarak Mandi intensified and Mega Project of "Naagar Nagar" was started.
- Trans Himalayan Centre at Leh was started.
- J&K Golf Development and Management Authority created.
- Kongdoori-Marysholder-Ski Chairlift Gulmarg Commissioned and Makhdoom Sahib Ropeway project completed.
- Mubarak Mandi in Jammu- Mahamaya-Shahabad Cable Car project in off-ing.
- Three projects of Tourism Development in Ranso (Reasi), Bitul-Zarieen Shahdara Sharief and Dalsar Lake were taken up at a cost of Rs. 15 crore.

TRANSPORT SECTOR

- 150 buses approved for deployment in Jammu and Srinagar cities at a cost of Rs. 26.40 crore under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) procurement.
- E-Services introduced in transport sector, smart card based driving license and registration certificates for all categories of vehicles has been issued under Vahan and Sarthi Scheme. Rs. 375 Lakhs released for widening and up gradation of 4-lane Satwari-Airport- R.S. Pora road.
- Over 2251 Kilometers of roads were metaled and shingled.
- More than 2413 Kilometers of roads were block topped and macadamized.
- Automatic car-washers installed at SMG complex Bemina.
- Rs.210 crore earmarked for macadamisation of roads. 116 trunk, lateral and inner roads in Srinagar and 76 in Jammu cities were macadamized.
- 51 bridges including major bridges like Gund Roshan, Hari Ganiwan, Zoohama Kralvari, Bagh Nallah in Kathau completed by Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department till January 2014.

- The work on Flyover corridor in Srinagar from Jehangir Chowk to Rambagh and Flyover at Jammu from Bikram Chowk to Satwari were started.
- 709 road schemes were completed under Prime Minister's Grameen Sadak Yojna (PMGSY).

PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTION IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR:

The responsibilities of establishing Panchayats in Jammu and Kashmir were given to the Revenue Department under the Act of 1935 and 1941. The first historical Panchayat came into being in the Kashmir Valley in Srinagar and Baramulla respectively. A department of Panchayat and Rural Development affiliated to the Revenue Department was established in 1936. Empowering gross- root level Political Institutions had been a cherished goal of the National Conference and N.C emphatically contexted it in the "New Kashmir Manifesto"- a blue print of rights and duties as early in 1944 and this ideal was later on incorporated into the constitution of the state in 1957, which made it 'obligatory for the state to take steps to organize Village Panchayats and to endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self government'. In all, 4082 Sarpanches and 28,253 Panches have been elected, with State level average voter turnout of about 77.71 percent.

Rural Development

Various Programmes and Schemes were implemented by the Coalition Government to reduce the rate of poverty among the ruler masses like National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Indra Awas Yojna (IAY) and Model Villages. Some other steps taken by the Coalition government are as:

- Under NREGA 5.58 Lakh job cards have been issued and 208 Lakh mandays generated ending September 2009;
- Under IAY, up to ending September 2009, out of 28473 houses taken up, 22425 houses were completed at an expenditure of Rs 69.45 crores;

119 Model Villages were taken up under Prime Minister's Reconstruction Plan at the Cost of Rs 142.80 crore.

New Administrative Units:

The cabinet sub-committee (CSC) on the creation of the administrative units was headed by Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand while other members of the committee include minister for P.H.E irrigation and flood control, Sham Lal Sharma; Minister for Agriculture, Ghulam Hassan Mir; Minister for higher education, Mohammad Akbar Lone and Minister for Planning and Development, Ajay Sadhotra. Chief Minister Omer Abdullah led government had set a deadline of January 15, 2014 for the cabinet sub-committee's report on the creation of New Administrative Units. The report got delayed because of differences between the two coalition partners on Pre-Poll alliance. The Mushtaq Ganaie Committee had proposed a total of 23 Sub-divisions across the State including 10 for Jammu region, 12 for Kashmir and 01 for the cold desert of Ladakh. The committee had also recommended 57 tehsils including 28 for Jammu, 25 for Kashmir and 04 for Leh and Kargil Districts of Ladakh region. It had also made recommendations of creating 79 Nayabats including 40 for Jammu, 34 for Kashmir and 05 for Ladakh. The committee had also proposed creation of 63 community development blocks including 29 for Jammu, 31 for Kashmir and 03 for Ladakh. The Mushtaq Ganaie Committee had also proposed the creation of a total number of 733 Patwar Halqas including 340 for Jammu, 385 for Kashmir and 08 for Ladakh. After reviewing the reports of the previous committees and further discussions and deliberations with the representatives of different areas of the state the Cabinet Sub- Committee (CSC) recommended the creation of 659 new administrative units in the state. Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Omer Abdullah said that the cabinet had accepted the recommendations of its sub-committee on forming 659 new administrative units. Omer Abdullah had told in the meeting of a cabinet sub-committee (CSC) January 24, 2014 that he would have the new administrative units cleared by his government whatever be the cost. He was addressing a media conference at his Wazarat Road residence in winter capital Jammu, 'The recommendations have been accepted by the state cabinet that met in Jammu and adopted the recommendations for the new administrative units in the J&K state. Those have been sent to the state planning and finance department to work out a road map for the implementation of the decision', the Chief Minister termed the decision which included new Sub-divisions, Tehsils, Block Development offices as "Historic. The cabinet sub-committee (CSC) on new administrative units recommended creation of about 659 new administrative units in Jammu and Kashmir and was adopted by the state cabinet on Feb. 2, 2014. It includes creation of new sub-divisions, tehsils, blocks and nayabats and made all 4098 Panchayats co-terminus with pathwar halqas which means every Panchayat would have a Pathwar. The Cabinet sub-committee recommended creation of 46 new sub-divisions, 131 Tehsils, 178 CD Blocks and 304 Nayabats in the state

Urban Development:

- Rs. 401 crore are utilized under (UIDSSMT) under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns for towns like Anantnag, Baramulla, Sopore, Kupwara and Ganderbal in Kashmir division. The districts of Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Rajouri, Udhampur, Doda, and Poonch had already brought under the ambit of (UIDSSMT).

- Online birth and death Registration System was introduced in the state.
- The Process of 'Building Permission' was put to online mode.
- E-Tendering system was introduced.
- The Jammu and Kashmir Municipalities Public Disclosure Act; the J&K Municipal Ombudsman Act 2010, the J&K Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of humane facilities Act; The J&K Property right to slum dwellers Act and many more laws were enacted in the state for the urban development.
- Building Bye-lanes for Srinagar/Jammu Municipal co-operation was notified.
- Traffic signal lights installed in the capital cities of Srinagar and Jammu in 2012-13, in order to manage the traffic in the state.

Rehabilitation of Kashmiri Migrants

Around 55,000 Hindu families had to leave their homes from the Kashmir Valley in wake of the outbreak of large-scale militant and terrorist violence in the valley in the 1990's, and are presently sojourning in Jammu (34,878 families), Delhi (19,338 families) and other states/Union Territories (1,240 families). The policy of the government has been to create conditions which would facilitate return of the Kashmiri migrants to their homes in th

- Assistance @ Rupees 7.5 Lakh per family for repair/reconstruction for fully or partially damaged houses.
- Assistance @ Rs. 2 Lakh per family for dilapidated/unused houses.
- Assistance @ Rs. 7.5 Lakh per family for purchase/construction of a house in Group-housing societies for those who have sold their properties during the period after 1989 and before the enactment of "J&K migrant immovable property (preservation, Protection and restraint of distress sale) act, 1997" on May 30, 1997.

Rehabilitation Policy for Militancy Affected People

The central and state government had earlier been implementing various measures by way of payment of ex-gratia relief to the victims of militancy related violence in the state, the expenditure on which was being reimbursed under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme of the Central Government. With a view to providing relief in a more comprehensive manner to the victims of militancy related violence, the package announced by the Prime Minister in April, 2008 also includes the following provisions:-

- A onetime cash compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs to the families of the victims in lieu of employment.
- Enhancement of pension to widows from Rs. 500 to Rs. 750 per month.

Financial assistance for the education of those orphaned in militancy related violence @ Rs. 750 per month per child up to 18 years (extendable up to the age of 21 years in exceptional cases) to all orphans without discrimination

Steps taken by the government for the upliftment of weaker sections of society:

The coalition Government reached to the gross root levels enshrined its policies within the context of government of the people, by the People and for the people. It took several measures for the upliftment and well-being of the tribal groups and downtrodden people of the state. For promoting education among the students of the weaker section, which include schedule castes, schedule tribes, other backward classes, physically challenged persons and minorities, various scholarship schemes are under implementation Rs 1.54 crore have been spend under the Pre-matric scholarship scheme. 17,200 OBC students and 79,000 Pahari speaking students have received scholarships amounting to Rs. 6.78 crore under the scheme.

- Over Rs. 31 crore have been spent on 2 lakh students who belong to various minorities.
- Under the post-matric scholarship scheme, Rs 9.9 crore were disbursed among 2000 physically handicapped students and those belonging to OBC and SC categories.
- 19 Gujjar and Bakerwal hostels, with an intake capacity of 1575 inmates, are being run by the advisory board for the development of Gujjar and Bakerwals.
- The Advisory Board for the Development of Pahari Speaking people runs six Boy's hostels in the state. 1500 students of Pahari community are being provided scholarships at pre and post-matric levels, respectively.
- To address the special needs for the development of SCs and STs in the state.

The government had appointed consultants for the formulation of SC/ST plans for the year 2012

Draws Backs

In summer of 2010, there were protests and demonstrations in Valley against the security forces and the atmosphere of fear and suppression. This led to violent clashes between security forces and demonstrators in which more than 100 civilians were killed and more than 500 civilians were injured. In these clashes which prolonged for three months, 4000 security persons were also injured 127. Following this, the Central Government formed a committee of three interlocutors to find the causes of unrest and to suggest measures for restoring faith and normalcy in State. The interlocutors -- journalist Dileep Padgoankar, academician Radha Kumar and former civil servant MM Ansari -- advocated more autonomy for State within Indian Constitution and have also recommended the withdrawal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) and the Disturbed Areas Act from the State. In October 2010, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah stated in Legislative Assembly that Kashmir was an outstanding issue between India and Pakistan with international recognition and that Kashmir has acceded to India under certain agreements and unlike Hyderabad and Junagarh Kashmir has not merged with India. Thus it is a matter of fact that National Conference has substantial mass following in the State and though there has been question on impartiality of elections in State since 1947, no one can deny that National Conference was and will remain voice of a substantial section of society in the State. Like every political party and organisation, its support base may increase or decrease depending upon its performance and adherence to Kashmiriyat, but it will always remain central to politics in Kashmir and Kashmir issue.

CONCLUSION

National Conference and Congress pledged in their respective manifestos of 2008 elections to eradicate the problems of unemployment, poverty, electricity shortage in the state. Besides both the partners pledged to give fillip to developmental works and also revitalize all the important sectors of the J&K state. The people of the state were also very much optimistic about him. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah led National Conference-Congress Party coalition government completed their five-years of governance. If we assess the performance of this government it has a mixed bag of achievements and failures. The government is keen to further strengthen the monitoring system through the use of information technology in the coming years. The Public Service Guarantee Act (PSGA) and the Right to Information Act (RTI) are potent weapons that shifted the power balance in favour of the common man and have proved useful in curbing administrative and bureaucratic discretion, negligence and promoting timeliness in service delivery while ushering in transparency in the decision making process. The creation of new administrative units in the Jammu and Kashmir State is another noteworthy and praiseworthy step of the Omar led coalition government. It is indeed a step forward in taking the administration at the door step of people living in far-flung areas who for petty matters have to cover the coalition government has nothing much to show even on the economic front. The state is facing a serious fiscal and economic crisis with the debt liabilities increasing fast. The Comptroller Auditor General (CAG) reports bring to light the large-scale cases of misappropriation and other financial irregularities and even government failed to respond positively to the points raised in these reports. Government also failed to deliver on its promises of solving the problems of unemployment or ending corruption in the state. These problems seems to be an unending crises in the valley particularly with the figures revealing more than 3980 post-graduates and 29034 graduates registered with government Employment Exchange in Kashmir Valley.

NC being the regional party and congress being the party in power at centre possesses different opinions on many issues, as being coalition partners they cannot make decisions that will maximize the ideal or goals of only one party. Coalition is the dexterous execution of a tight-rope balancing, involving compromise between two or more distant or even contrary stand points. The deciding factor may be the payoffs emerging out of the bargaining process, since each partner wants to take more for itself and give less to the other partner in the coalition, the centrally located parties are at an advantage in coalition bargaining. The state government has had to battle hard to regain confidence of the people of valley where as the people of Jammu and Ladakh felt that they did not get their proper share and are discriminated on various fronts. In the valley people accuse the government vice-versa. It is with these things in mind that the present coalition had started their journey and they from the very beginning raised the slogans of 'equitable development for all three regions' to curb such opinions and views. After 2008 elections the Congress entered into an alliance with the NC leaving the earlier coalition partner PDP to fend as the main opposition within the legislature. Because of this a sense of powerlessness, marginality, deprivation and neglect has deepened in the valley. During last five years of their working they succeeded to a large extent in brain washing such mindsets in the different regions of the state.

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